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CLASSIFICATION S-E-C-R-E-T
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 1 July 1955

SUBJECT Kampfgruppen of the Ministry for Heavy Industry

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

25X1

DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

25X1

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. The financing of the Kampfgruppen in the various establishments under the East Germany Ministry for Heavy Industry has caused considerable difficulties. As of the end of April 1955, the Central Commercial Department of the Ministry had received no instructions on the subject from any competent office and had informed the establishments which had asked that it was not permissible to use plant funds for the Kampfgruppen. The establishments were also advised to refer all questions of financing to the office responsible for the Kampfgruppen, i.e. the Party Directorate. 25X1

2. The Central Party Directorate of the Ministry expects that instructions on the subject will be issued in the near future by the Central Committee of the SED.

3. The activity of the Kampfgruppen in the Ministry increased considerably during April 1955. Basic training in drill was concluded by 1 May 1955, and was to be followed by cross-country maneuvers and rifle training. Members of the Kampfgruppen have been outfitted with uniform suits (coveralls) which cost 26 DME and must be paid for by the members themselves - although payment can be made in installments.

4. The Kampfgruppe in the Ministry for Heavy Industry numbers about 300 men, but their interest in the group is not overwhelming. Some 120 men were missing at the muster on 26 April 1955, for example. It had originally been intended that the Kampfgruppe would march with weapons at the 1 May 1955 demonstrations but the Party Directorate finally decided that the group would appear on this occasion without them.

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[redacted]

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